

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 5, 2015
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 30, 2015
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 21, 2015
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 26, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1485

Introduced by Assembly Member Patterson

February 27, 2015

An act to add Section 14132.735 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to Medi-Cal.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1485, as amended, Patterson. Medi-Cal: radiology.

Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services, under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid Program provisions. Existing law prohibits a requirement of in-person contact between a health care provider and patient under the Medi-Cal program for any service otherwise covered by the Medi-Cal program when the service is appropriately provided by telehealth, as defined. Existing law, for purposes of payment of covered treatment or services provided through telehealth, prohibits the department from limiting the type of setting where services are provided for the patient or by the health care provider.

This bill would prohibit the department from conditioning Medi-Cal provider enrollment or reimbursement for radiology services provided

to Medi-Cal beneficiaries undergoing imaging procedures at locations within California on the location of the radiologist, if the radiologist meets specified conditions and criteria, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 14132.735 is added to the Welfare and
2 Institutions Code, to read:

3 14132.735. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that this section
4 shall not be a precedent for other types of health care providers
5 and that remotely located radiologists supplement, and do not
6 supplant, ~~in-state~~ *on-site* radiologists as an integral part of
7 providing a high level of care in local communities.

8 (b) Notwithstanding Section 14122, the department shall not
9 condition Medi-Cal provider enrollment or reimbursement for
10 radiology services provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries undergoing
11 imaging procedures at locations within California on the location
12 of the radiologist, if the radiologist meets all of the following
13 conditions and criteria:

14 (1) The radiologist is licensed pursuant to Division 2
15 (commencing with Section 500) of the Business and Professions
16 Code.

17 (2) The radiologist is enrolled and in good standing in the
18 Medicaid program for the state where the radiologist is located, is
19 enrolled in good standing in Medicare, or is enrolled in good
20 standing in both programs.

21 (3) The radiologist is not located outside the United States of
22 America.

23 (4) The radiologist satisfies all requirements for enrollment and
24 participation in the Medi-Cal program.

25 (5) The radiologist consents to Medi-Cal acting through the
26 state Medicaid program where the radiologist is located and the
27 Medicare Program with respect to any issues concerning the
28 radiologist's enrollment or participation in Medi-Cal.

29 (6) The radiologist consents to jurisdiction and venue in
30 Sacramento, California, for any and all legal proceedings in any
31 way related to the radiologist's enrollment in Medi-Cal, including,

1 but not limited to, formal or informal proceedings, as well as
2 administrative, civil, and criminal proceedings.

3 (c) Notwithstanding Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section
4 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code,
5 the department may implement, interpret, and make specific this
6 section by means of all-county letters, provider bulletins, and
7 similar instructions.

8 (d) This section shall be implemented only to the extent
9 permitted by federal law and to the extent that federal financial
10 participation is available.

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